GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4440
ANSWERED ON:19.05.2006
INSTALLATION OF SOLAR WATER HEATING SYSTEMS .
Audikesavulu Shri D.K.;Koya Dr. P. Pookunhi

Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government is contemplating to make installation of solar water heating/solar power systems mandatory for every upcoming house/ apartment and Government offices;

(b) If so, the details thereof;

(c) Whether the Government is extending loans through various nationalized banks for setting up of the solar water heater systems;

(d) If so, the details thereof?

(e) Whether the Government is also planning for setting up of solar power stations in remote and hilly areas; and

(f) If so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR)

(a)&(b): At the request of Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources, the Ministry of Urban Development have advised the State/Union Territory Governments to consider issuing suitable directives to the local bodies under their control for modifying the building bye-laws with a view to make the installation of solar water heating systems mandatory in certain categories of buildings. In order to assist the local bodies in this respect, a model regulation/bye-laws has also been circulated to all State and Union Territory Governments. The model regulation/bye-laws, when incorporated by the local bodies in their existing building bye-laws, will make it mandatory for those categories of buildings to have solar assisted water heating systems.

The Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal and Union Territories of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Chandigarh have so far issued necessary orders to urban local bodies to make solar water heaters mandatory in functional buildings in their States.

As regards solar power systems, there is no such plan at present as the cost of electricity generation from solar systems is quite high as compared to conventional electricity.

(c)&(d): The Government is implementing a Scheme, which provides interest subsidy so that loans for solar water heating systems are available from financial institutions and banks, including nationalized banks @ 2% for domestic users, 3% for institutions and 5% for industrial/commercial users. Besides Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) and three Non-Banking Financing Companies

(NBFCs), the Scheme is, at present, being implemented through nine nationalized public sector banks and six scheduled co-operative banks.

(e)&(f): Under Remote Village Electrification Programme, installation of solar photovoltaic power plants is one of the eligible options for electrification of remote villages including those in hilly areas. As per the present norms, the Ministry provides upto 90% of the specified bench-mark costs of installations of such power plants as subsidy. So far, support for such plants under the programme has been provided in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Chattisgarh, J&K, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Tripura and West Bengal.